

date class numbered 49 at the close of the year. The Church has been repaired for public worship in a better condition than before the fire, and out of a population of not much over 2,300, not less than 1,200 were present at the opening services. The usual annual missionary meeting, and the result, under circumstances which had led the missionaries to entertain grave doubts as to the propriety of holding such a meeting, proved highly gratifying. Money received, £6 10s.—Cocoa-nut oil, 60 gallons; and arrow root, quantity not given. The present condition of the island may be thus described—entire population with few exceptions under christian instruction—upwards of 50 schools are in operation, attended by persons of every age, and of both sexes. Many hundreds are now able to read the Word of God in their own tongue. Two Churches have been organized, and more than 300 persons have been admitted to Church membership. The Sabbath is well observed and all the means of grace appear to be valued. The entire New Testament has been translated into the language of the island, and Mr. Inglis is at present in Britain, prosecuting the publication of a revised edition of it through the press of the British and Foreign Bible Society. By the latest correspondence with him, we learn that the work had gone forward as far as Luke, and as the difficulties have been overcome, much more rapid progress may be anticipated.—Mr. Inglis cannot yet, however, speak definitely of the termination of his labours in revising the translation and superintending the press, and for this reason he says, “My visit to Nova Scotia must still be held as problematical.”

The Board would now call the attention of Synod to the future prosecution of the Mission on these islands.

LOUD CALL FOR INCREASED EFFORTS.

In the narrative of the last voyage of the *John Williams* we find a survey, by far the most extensive and accurate that has yet been made, of the New Hebrides group. Instead of the 5 or 6 islands which appear in the most modern maps, it has been discovered that not less than 30 islands belong to the group, and some of them of much greater extent and population than those with which our Mission has made us familiar. At a moderate computation the gross population has been stated as greatly exceeding 180,000 souls. Missionaries have been settled on the most southerly islands. Native teachers have been located on five others, so that the light of the Gospel has not reached more than eight, or about one-fourth of the whole.—Native agency has been greatly prospered on several, but especially on Vati or Sandwich Island, where under Samoan teachers, the elements of a christian Church were found awaiting the visiting party, who “having seen the grace of God” in them, did not hesitate to organize a christian Church by baptizing 10 persons; while the entire population of that district in which the teachers resided were found professedly christian and attending diligently on the teachers’ instructions. The island thus successfully opened to christianity lies within 12 hours of Erromanga, and has a population fully equal to that of Tana, Erromanga, and Aneiteum united. It has been transferred to the charge of our missionaries by arrangement with the brethren of the London Missionary Society, which had heretofore sustained the Samoan teachers. From its central situation it affords great advantages for the transmission of the Word of God to the dark regions around, while its numerous bays, rivers, and harbours seem to promise that in after years it shall become the seat of extensive commerce. At present it could receive 4 or 5 missionaries into a most inviting field. Similarly encouraging are the statements given concerning Espiritu Santo, the most northerly of the group, and the largest, also Malicolo, Ambrym and Api. With such a wide field before us, it is now time to enquire whether we are prepared to encourage the hearts and strengthen the hands of our missionaries by increased efforts, to take possession of some additional territory in the name of “King Jesus.”

CANDIDATES FOR THE MISSION.

One ordained minister, one student ready for licensure, and another within a year of completing his course of study, offered, and were accepted with entire cordiality. The ordained minister, Rev. Donald Morrison, having obtained satisfactory medical certificate, demitted his charge at Strathalbyn, P. E. I., under the advice of the Board, and placed himself immediately thereafter under their direction. Mr Morrison had been settled over his congregation but one full year,